



Concurrency Analysis Brief State-Owned Transportation Facilities

What is Concurrency?

Concurrency is a goal. Concurrency is achieved when adequate public facilities are in place and functioning at an acceptable level-of-service at the time development occurs.

Under the GMA the adopted LOS serves as the local jurisdiction's benchmark to measure the impacts of new development on the local transportation system. If the impacts of a development request would result in LOS dropping below a standard, the local jurisdiction must deny the development application unless the appropriate transportation improvements are made concurrently (within six years) with the development.

What is the State-Owned Facility Concurrency Analysis?

During the 2006 session a bill was introduced to amend the GMA by requiring state-owned transportation facilities to be included in the concurrency requirement of the GMA. The Bill did not pass, but an analysis was funded (\$100,000) in program "T" of the supplemental budget. The analysis will examine expanding the transportation concurrency requirements of the GMA to include development impacts on level of service standards applicable to state-owned transportation facilities, including state highways and state ferry routes. The objective of the analysis is to determine how to ensure that jurisdictional divisions do not defeat growth management concurrency goals.

Who is Leading the Analysis?

The HQ Planning office is leading the analysis with support from CTED's Growth Management Division. In addition, the legislative language calls for an oversight committee consisting of 2 members each from the Land Use and Transportation Committees of the House and Senate as well as representatives from the Associations of Cities and Counties. The Oversight Committee includes:

Senators

- Mary Margaret Haugen
- Craig Pridemore
- Joyce Mulliken
- Bill Finkbeiner

Representatives

- Beverly Woods
- Lynn Schindler
- Dean Takko
- Alex Wood

Association of Washington Cities

- Ashley Probart

Washington State Association of Counties

- Eric Johnson



What is the Analysis Approach?

The planning office proposes a fact-based analysis that will identify gaps in law and practice that hinder the fulfillment of the concurrency goal by:

- Reviewing the current statutory setting for concurrency
- Evaluating state, regional and local administrative practices, and
- Analyzing relevant data

The research team also intends to identify ways to strengthen state, regional, and local coordination of transportation planning by

- Reviewing existing literature
- Surveying concurrency experts and practitioners
- Considering relevant and tangible case studies, and
- Exploring best practices within and outside of Washington State

As a tool for furthering discussion on the subject, the policy options and impact analysis presented in the final report will be driven by the facts and data resulting from the analysis.

When is the Deadline?

The completed analysis must be submitted to the appropriate standing committees of the legislature, and to the Office of Financial Management, by December 1, 2006.

What are the Issues to Watch?

- Concurrency is a hot topic from the local jurisdictional standpoint.
- The Legislature is concerned that the intent of GMA concurrency is not being met.
- Recommendations will likely be controversial.

For more about the concurrency study please contact:

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